

Message Text

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TAGS: FAO, OCON

SUBJECT: WORKING PARTY ON COMPOSITION AND TERMS OF REFERENCE
OF FAO COUNCIL, PROGRAM COMMITTEE, FINANCE COMMITTEE
ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS, NOVEMBER 18-20

1. FAO COUNCIL CHAIRMAN BULA HOYOS, IN BRIEF CONSULTATION NOVEMBER 15, TOLD U.S. REPRESENTATIVE TO FAO THAT VISIT OF VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT DISRUPTS ALREADY CONFUSED WORK OF WORKING PARTY. BULA HOYOS SAID HE INTENDS TO HAVE VELLAY OF FRANCE CHAIR DRAFTING COMMITTEE AND PRESENT REPORT TO FAO COUNCIL MEETING, AND THAT HE EXPECTS TO ARRIVE AT MERELY A RANGE OF OPTIONS TO BE PRESENTED TO THE COUNCIL FOR DEBATE, WITH POSSIBLY ANOTHER WORKING PARTY MEETING IN JANUARY.

2. U.S. REPRESENTATIVE SAID U.S. GOVERNMENT VIEW, AS HE PERCEIVES IT, IS THAT PRESENT SYSTEM OF FAO COMMITTEES DESPITE SOME IMPERFECTIONS IS STILL PREFERABLE TO PROPOSED CHANGES. BULA HOYOS COMMENTED THAT THIS WAS ALSO THE VIEW OF FAO DIRECTOR GENERAL SAOUMA. U.S. REPRESENTATIVE FURTHER COMMENTED THAT HE DOUBTED ANY CONSENSUS COULD BE REACHED IN WORKING PARTY. BULA HOYOS SAID HE WOULD OPEN MEETING NOVEMBER 18 WITH AN OPEN MIND, AND SEE WHAT COURSE OF ACTION WOULD DEVELOP. HE WOULD PLAN, HOWEVER, TO HAVE ONLY A DRAFTING COMMITTEE WORK ON NOVEMBER 19, THE DAY OF THE VENEZUELAN

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PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO FAO AND THE HILD A CONCLUDING MEETING

ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20.

3. BULA HOYOS ASKED U.S. TO BE MEMBER OF DRAFTING COMMITTEE, WHICH WILL HAVE TO BE COMPOSED OF ONE MEMBER PER REGION, ALTHOUGH A SMALLER NUMBER WOULD HAVE BEEN DESIRABLE. U.S. REPRESENTATIVE AGREED AND INDICATED INTENTION TO NOMINATE DEPUTY U.S. REPRESENTATIVE CHARLES HIGGINSON TO THAT COMMITTEE. VOLPE

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